



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
4050 Crums Mill Rd, Suite 203
Harrisburg PA 17112



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 20, 2019

Contact: Hernan Ortiz
(800) 498-1518
Hernan.ortiz@usda.gov

USDA to Survey Pennsylvania Farm Chemical Use and Production Costs

HARRISBURG, PA – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will gather information about farm economics and production practices from barley producers across Pennsylvania, as part of the 2019 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS).

“ARMS is a vital survey that tracks how Pennsylvania farms use technology to manage barley production,” explained King Whetstone, director of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Northeastern Regional Field Office. “The survey helps policymaker and farm groups understand the factors driving costs of production and returns from crop production.”

NASS enumerators will conduct the survey in-person starting as early as September 3, and recommend farmers have their fertilizer and pesticide spray records available to speed up the survey process. This year NASS is reaching out to over 1,500 barley producers, 2,000 cotton producers, 1,000 sorghum, and 3,000 wheat producers across the country. In Pennsylvania, 150 barley producers will be surveyed.

The ARMS survey is conducted in three phases from May 2019 through April 2020. The first phase screened participants to make sure they had the commodity of interest and would accurately represent the entire U.S. farm sector. In this current phase, NASS will collect information on production practices and chemical use for the specific commodities mentioned above. In the final phase, NASS will survey producers on cost of production, farm income, and production expenditures.

Data provided by farmers is confidential and protected by law. NASS further safeguards the privacy of all respondents by publishing only aggregate data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

ARMS is a joint effort of NASS and USDA’s Economic Research Service (ERS). For more information about the 2019 Agricultural Resource Management Survey visit www.nass.usda.gov/go/arms.

Survey results and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov/Publications. For more information call the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office at (800) 498-1518.

###

NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.